



**BOROUGH OF WILTON**

**MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH'S  
ANNUAL REPORT  
1952**



## ANNUAL REPORT, 1952.

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Medical Officer of Health.

**G NAPIER**, B.Sc.(Hons.), M.B., Ch.B.,  
D.P.H.(R.C.P.& S.), C.T.M.& H.

Phone : Wilton 3108.  
Salisbury 3675.

Sanitary Inspector:

**J. W. ARMSTRONG**, M.R.S.I., M.S.I.A.

Telephone : Wilton 3108.

Public Health Department,  
Municipal Offices,  
Kingsbury Square,  
WILTON.



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## FOREWORD.

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This year has again been a satisfactory one as regards freedom from epidemics. The birth rate fell under the average of recent years. The death rate, however, was slightly under last year's figure.

The maternal mortality was nil. Apart from three deaths from pneumonia and one death from tuberculosis, there were no deaths from the usual infectious diseases. No cases of diphtheria were notified. Immunisation against diphtheria is still at a fairly satisfactory figure, and vaccination against small-pox, which had declined, shows a marked tendency to improve. It is also satisfactory to report that only one death from tuberculosis has occurred during the last three years.

Conditions affecting health remain generally as in previous years, though a few more Council houses have been built and preparations are going on to develop two further sites.

The investigation into the Sewage System proceeded during the year and a scheme for improvement was submitted to the Ministry. Slow but steady progress is also being made with the construction of the playing field. The water supply has been satisfactory during the year both in quality and quantity. Other sanitary matters, refuse collection, etc., call for no special comment.



## GENERAL DESCRIPTION OF THE BOROUGH.

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The Borough of Wilton, lying in a valley at the confluence of the rivers Nadder and Wylye, is one of great antiquity, being granted its first charter in 1,100 A.D. It is a small town, the development of which has spread in many directions due to the low lying land, adjacent to the two rivers, which is liable to flooding.

Being an old town, many of the houses are old, inconvenient, and very closely crowded together, falling well below modern standards of housing although not in the category of slum property.

Wilton is a small industrial and market centre and located within the Borough are the Headquarters of the Southern Command. The main industries in the Borough are carpet weaving, felt manufacture and agricultural engineering. In addition to these industries, which employ the majority of the working population of the town, other employment is found in the local shops, on the railways, in the City of Salisbury, or at the Southern Command Headquarters.

Population, Total . 3,054.

Acreage, 2,681.

Number of inhabited houses, 792

Number of council houses, 197.

Industries and Trades, Carpet Weaving.

Felt Manufacture.

Agricultural Engineering.

Rateable Value (1st April, 1951) £16,685.

Product of a Penny Rate (approx.) £62 7s. 9d.

Highways, Administered by Wilts County Council  
(unclassified roads under contract).

Refuse Disposal, by contract.

Sewage Disposal, works outside the Borough.

Water Supply, Public supply from the Corporation's  
Waterworks at Ditchampton.

Gas Supply, Southern Gas Board.

Electricity Supply, Southern Electricity Board.

## VITAL STATISTICS FOR YEAR 1952.

During the year thirty-four children were born alive in the Borough; of these, fourteen were male and twenty female. There was one illegitimate child.

Live births	M	F	Crude local Birth Rate per
Total ...	14	20	1,000 of estimated resident
Legitimate	14	19	population, 11.1; corrected
Illegitimate	0	1	by comparability factor 1.18
			gives 13.1
Stillbirths	M	F	
Total ..	0	0	Rate per 1,000 live and still
			births, 0

It will be seen from the above that though the actual birth rate is 11.1, when adjusted by the comparability figure to allow for the particular age and sex distribution of the Borough a standard birth rate of 13.1 is got for comparison with the birth rates from other areas. A table is given later.

### Particulars of Deaths.

Thirty-one deaths occurred during the year, nineteen male and twelve female.

Total	M	F	Actual death rate per 1,000
31	19	12	of estimated resident
			population, 10.1.
			Corrected death rate 9.8.

Table comparing births and deaths during the last 30 years showing their effect on the population of the Borough.

Year	Total Births	Total Deaths	Population	
			Gain	Loss
1920	53	26	27	—
1921	42	32	10	—
1922	38	33	5	—
1923	42	33	9	—
1924	38	29	9	—
1925	47	34	13	—
1926	31	45	—	14
1927	34	32	2	—



Year	Total Births	Total Deaths	Population	
			Gain	Loss
1928	31	33	—	2
1929	24	27	—	3
1930	33	26	7	—
1931	40	32	8	—
1932	30	38	—	8
1933	28	26	2	—
1934	32	35	—	3
1935	35	35	—	—
1936	28	29	—	1
1937	27	31	—	4
1938	31	32	—	1
1945	40	35	5	—
1946	46	31	15	—
1947	44	40	4	—
1948	34	39	—	5
1949	39	30	9	—
1950	48	21	27	—
1951	40	39	1	—
1952	34	31	3	—

### Causes of Death

	1946	'47	'48	'49	'50	'51	'52
Diabetes	0	0	1	0	0	0	0
Premature births	2	0	0	2	0	0	0
Congenital Malformations	1	1	1	0	0	0	1
Malignant Disease	2	6	5	3	3	6	4
Intracranial Vascular Lesions	3	6	6	1	3	7	4
Heart Disease	11	7	10	5	10	12	10
Other Circulatory Diseases	1	1	2	3	2	0	1
Digestive Diseases	0	4	1	1	-	-	0
Bronchitis	1	3	5	3	0	3	3
Pneumonia	1	0	1	1	1	0	3
Other Respiratory Diseases	0	1	1	0	0	0	0
Tuberculosis (all forms)	1	0	0	4	0	0	1
Nephritis	1	3	1	1	0	0	0
Other causes	5	8	3	3	1	4	4

(Causes of death continued overleaf)

(causes of death continued)	1946	'47	'48	'49	'50	'51	'52
Road Traffic Accident, etc.	1	0	0	1	1	1	0
Influenza ...	... 0	0	2	2	0	3	0
Syphilitic Disease ...	... -	-	-	-	-	1	0
Measles ...	... -	-	-	-	-	1	0
Ulcer of Stomach or Duo-							
denum ...	... -	-	-	-	-	1	0
Diphtheria ...	... -	-	-	-	-	-	0
Whooping Cough ...	... -	-	-	-	-	-	0
Meningococcal Infections...	... -	-	-	-	-	-	0
Acute Poliomyelitis ...	... -	-	-	-	-	-	0
Other Infective Diseases ...	... -	-	-	-	-	-	0
Leukaemia ...	... -	-	-	-	-	-	0
							31

## Deaths from Puerperal causes.

Rate per 1,000  
(live and still)  
births

	Deaths	
Puerperal Sepsis ...	0	0
Other Puerperal causes ..	0	0
Total ...	0	0

## Death Rate of Infants under one year of age—

Number of deaths ...	...	0.0
All infants per 1,000 live births ...	..	0.0
Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births		0.0
Illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births		0.0

**General Statement on Vital Statistics.**

It will be seen on studying the table of causes of death over the last years there is very little deviation from the general pattern. Diseases of an infectious nature continue to account for a very small proportion of the total number of deaths, as do children's diseases and those connected with child bearing.

From the above figures it will also be seen that the possibility of death from cancer has possibly increased slightly in the Borough as it has done elsewhere. Malignant disease now accounts for 12% of the total deaths

instead of 10·6, and that the average number of annual deaths is now four instead of 3·37. Though the numbers dealt with are small, taken over a period of years and in conjunction with a similar though slightly greater rise in the neighbouring Rural district, they may have some significance. Improved diagnosis may account for some of the slight rise, as may also longer life.

It is also worthy of remark that during the year there was only one death from tuberculosis in the Borough and none during the last two years. While this cannot of course be hoped for every year, it does seem possible that the better housing now becoming available, together with the new drugs now in use, and the possibility of still better drugs in the near future, may eventually make death from tuberculosis rare.

The other figures call for no special comment.

Comparison of deaths from malignant disease (Cancer etc.) with deaths from all causes:—

Year	Deaths from malignant causes	Deaths from all causes	Year	Deaths from malignant causes	Deaths from all causes
1931	4	32	1945	3	35
1932	5	38	1946	2	31
1933	3	26	1947	6	40
1934	4	32	1948	5	39
1935	2	35	1949	3	30
1936	4	29	1950	3	21
1937	4	31	1951	6	39
1938	1	32	1952	4	31
	—	—		—	—
	27	255		32	266
1931-38	Proportion of total deaths—10·6.		1945-52	Proportion of total deaths—12%.	

## General Provision of HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE BOROUGH

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The Medical Officer of Health spends his whole time in Public Health work, being Medical Officer of Health for the neighbouring rural district of Salisbury and Wilton and also of Mere and Tisbury rural district.

His qualifications are Bachelor of Science (Honours degree), Bachelor of Medicine and of Surgery, Diploma of Public Health of the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons, England, Certificates of Tropical Medicine and Hygiene, London, etc.

There is a qualified Sanitary Inspector who is engaged full time in the Borough. He also holds the office of Surveyor.

Contribution to these two officers' salaries is made under the Public Health Acts.

During the year Dr. Lane continued to act as Medical Officer to the Infant Welfare and Antenatal Clinic.

There is one midwife who devotes the whole of her time to the Borough. She also acts as school nurse.

Home help is now obtainable as well as the services of the nurse mentioned above.

### **Hospital Service available for the Borough.**

- (1) *Infectious Fevers.* Odstock Hospital.
- (2) *General Cases.* General Infirmary, Salisbury.  
Odstock Hospital, Salisbury.
- (3) *Children.* Various Homes under supervision of the County Council.
- (4) *Maternity.* Beds are available at Salisbury Infirmary.
- (5) *Venereal Disease.* Salisbury Infirmary Clinic.



- (6) *Tuberculosis.* Winsley Sanatorium and Harnwood Hospital take the majority of cases ; beds are also to be had through the County Council at Savernake and at Alton, or at Bath Orthopædic Hospital.
- (7) *Chronic Sick.* Provision is arranged for these in Newbridge Hospital, etc.
- (8) *Orthopædic.* Bath Orthopædic Hospital.
- (9) *Mental Cases.* Special schools outside the County, or County Institutions through the County Council. There is now more adequate provision within the County boundaries.
- (10) { *Puerperal Fever*  
*Puerperal Pyrexia*  
*Ophthalmia Neonatorum* } Arrangements are made and consultations offered by the County Council.
- (11) *Ear, Nose and Throat cases.* Salisbury Infirmary.

## Hospital Service as a whole.

There are no hospitals or nursing homes in the Borough itself, and none are considered necessary, the present arrangements being satisfactory and the area well served. Full advantage is taken of Hospital treatment.

Salisbury Infirmary is equipped to deal with operative cases, and contains an up-to-date pathological laboratory.

There is no maternity or nursing home in the Area.

The maternal mortality is, as it was last year, nil.

## Clinics and Treatment Centres.

(1) *Infant Welfare.* A centre is provided by a local committee which is sponsored by the County Council. Antenatal work is also carried out.

(2) *Other Clinics.* There are in Salisbury available for and used by this district, a Tuberculosis Dispensary Venereal Diseases Clinic, and an Orthopædic Centre, provided by the County Council.

There is no school clinic for the District, neither are there day nurseries or light clinics.



## **Ambulance Service.**

The Ambulance Service is provided by the St. John Ambulance Association under the direction of the County Council.

## **Laboratory Facilities.**

Examination of water samples and swabs, etc., is carried out at the Pathological Laboratory in Salisbury Infirmary free of cost to the Council. The service is very satisfactory.

## **Care of Aged.**

The National Assistance Act lays responsibility for the provision of institutional care of the aged on the County Council. Accommodation is offered in Salisbury for the Southern Area at Meyrick Close. This institution has been re-planned and made more homely for the old people. Whilst this is a satisfactory improvement as far as it goes, yet it cannot compare with the policy of giving the old people apartments of their own while also having supervision and care. There is now also additional accommodation at Paccombe House, Downton.

## **Removal to Institution of Aged and Feeble in need of care.**

That section of the above mentioned Act making provision for the compulsory removal of feeble and aged people, for various reasons, to an institution is naturally a worrying one, and the procedure complicated and lengthy. The duty of certification of the necessity of such removal lies with the Medical Officer of Health of the district concerned. No action has been necessary during the year.

## **Burial of the Dead.**

Responsibility for the burial of the dead in cases where no provision has been made or can be made by any other authority or person lies with the Sanitary Authority.

No action has had to be taken in 1952.

## **Notifications of Infectious Disease** to the County Council.

Copies of all notifications of disease received are forwarded to the County Council within 12 hours of receipt. In return for this the County Council pay a notification fee which equals that paid by the Borough Council to the Doctor concerned.

## **Legislation in force in the Area.**

There are bye-laws with respect to Cleansing of Footways and Pavements, Cleansing of Earth-closets, Privies, Ashpits and Cesspools ; for dealing with nuisances from snow, filth, keeping of animals, slaughterhouses ; and regarding cemetery management, dating from 29th April, 1891.

Building bye-laws were adopted 27th August, 1924.

Bye-laws under the Food and Drugs Act. 1938, sec. 15, were made operative in September, 1952. These promote cleanliness in handling food, etc.

## SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES of the Borough.

### Water Supply.

The Borough has an adequate supply of pure and wholesome water piped throughout the district. The source is a shallow well, situated at Ditchampton, from which it is pumped to a covered service reservoir, constant care is taken to guard against possible sources of pollution, and it will be seen from the following summary of bacteriological examinations of samples of the water that the results are almost invariably highly satisfactory. Prior to being pumped to the service reservoir the whole of the supply is subjected to chlorination.

It is a hard water — total hardness 22·0, temporary hardness 18·6, permanent hardness 3·4 — thus there is no fear of plumbosolvent action.

Regular samples of both treated and untreated water are taken for bacteriological examination as is shown in the table below.

### Bacteriological Examination of Water Supply.

Date sample taken	Pathologist's Report	
16th January	...	No evidence of pollution
14th February	...	No evidence of pollution
12th March	...	No evidence of pollution
16th April	...	No evidence of pollution
16th May	...	No evidence of pollution
11th June	...	No evidence of pollution
17th July	...	No evidence of pollution
27th August	...	No evidence of pollution
17th September	...	No evidence of pollution
15th October	...	No evidence of pollution
19th November	...	No evidence of pollution
12th December	...	Sample of well-water from public supply— Very small number of non-fæcal coliform pollution. Tap Town supply — No evidence of pollution.

## Chemical Analysis of Water Supply.

Sample taken on 15th October, 1952.

Physical characters—Excellent.

			Parts per 100,000
Reaction	...	Alkaline p.h....	7·3
Saline and Free Ammonia	...	...	—
Organic (or “albuminoid”) ammonia	...	...	0·002
Oxygen absorbed from permanganate in two hours at 27° C.	...	...	0·009
Chlorides	...	...	1·6
Nitrogen as nitrates	...	...	1·0
Total Hardness	...	...	22·0
(a) Temporary	...	...	18·6
(b) Permanent	...	...	3·4
Poisonous Metals	...	...	—
Nitrites	...	...	—
Microscopical examination of the sediment	...	...	—

Of the 792 dwelling-houses, 755 have a piped supply available from the public mains, 23 have a piped supply from the Wilton Estate mains, and 14 have wells all of which appear adequate at all seasons.

In addition to the informal action taken to prevent water wastage by defective services and fittings, it was necessary to serve 16 notices on various owners.

## Closet Accommodation.

The water carriage system is in operation in nearly all the closets in Wilton, but there are still a few cases where it is impossible to connect to the sewer.

## Public Cleansing and Refuse Removal.

The cleansing and repair of public highways and foot-paths is carried out by the County Council by contract. The work on the whole is carried out in an efficient manner, and minor complaints are usually arranged amicably with the District Surveyor.



There is a weekly collection of house refuse in the Borough, undertaken by a private contractor who has served the Borough very satisfactorily for many years. He is properly equipped with modern refuse collection vehicles. Minor complaints arise from time to time, but on investigation these are seldom found to be the fault of the contractor.

### **Pollution of Rivers and Streams.**

A certain amount of nuisance was caused by the failure to cut the weeds growing in some parts of the rivers in the town and it is hoped that more attention will be given to this matter in future years.

During 1950 the responsibility for the rivers in the Borough passed from the Avon and Stour Catchment Board to the newly constituted Avon and Dorset River Board, who also took over the responsibilities of the County Council in respect of river pollution. A fixed standard of sewage effluent will soon be demanded before discharge into a river will be allowed.

### **Eradication of Insect Pests.**

These pests are extremely rare in the Borough.

The Borough has so far been extremely fortunate in the class of tenant occupying the Council Houses, and very little trouble has been experienced with insect pests of any kind. There were, however, many complaints regarding flies arising from refuse being dealt with by dumping in the new playing field. This complaint was met with to a great extent by cutting down the dumping during the summer months and by spraying, etc.

### **Smoke Abatement.**

No action has been necessary this year.

### **Sewers.**

Practically all the houses in the Borough are connected to the sewage system, which is a partially separate one, most of the rain water being disposed of by other means. As reported last year, the sewage system gives rise to



anxiety, and the position continues to grow more acute as time goes on and no steps are taken to remedy it. Silting continues to increase in many parts of the system, resulting in reduction of the available cross sectional area for the passage of sewage.

Four obstructions, partly due to silting, were cleared. 530 feet of sewer was successfully cleansed of silt and several more lengths need cleansing.

Many tests were carried out to obtain the necessary data as to sub-soil water level, rainfall, and flows in sewers. Each length of sewer was tested where possible, manhole to manhole, and several defective lengths were found, one leak amounting to some 828 gallons per day, and a second to 360 gallons per day.

## **Recreation Facilities.**

The Council possess a Recreation Ground of some  $2\frac{1}{2}$  acres, laid out to include tennis courts, a bowling green, children's playground and a flower garden. No facilities exist at the moment for playing organised games such as football or cricket, but this will be provided later at the new playing field,  $2\frac{1}{2}$  acres of which has been raised some three feet to its new level, and is about ready for seeding.

## **Rodent Control.**

In order to carry out their duties under the Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949, Wilton Borough has joined with Amesbury R.D.C. and Salisbury and Wilton R.D.C. in appointing a pests officer to control their districts under the supervision of the various Sanitary Inspectors. The rodent operator has spent two weeks in every ten working in the Borough. The annual sewer test found slight infestation in one length of sewer. The arrangement appears to be working satisfactorily and to provide what Wilton needs at a reasonable cost.

## **General.**

Notices were served to remedy the following :—

Defective w.c. accommodation	2.
Choked or defective drains	6.

## FOOD HYGIENE.

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### Inspection of meat and other foods.

The policy of centralised slaughtering adopted during the war is still continued, so that there has been no slaughter of animals for food in the Borough. The meat in butchers' shops is, of course, liable to inspection, as are all other foods offered for sale. During the year a quantity of varied foods had to be condemned for various reasons, as shown in the table below.

Canned Vegetables	2 tins	Canned Meat	60 lbs
Canned Fruit	9 tins	Sausages ...	18 lbs
Evaporated Milk	3 tins	Fish ...	26 lbs
Lard ...	28 lbs	Bacon ...	36 lbs

### Food Shops.

Below is given a list of retail food premises within the Borough.

Grocery Stores	... 8	Cafes	... 4
Greengrocery Stores...	4	Fresh and Fried Fish	2
Butchers ...	... 3	General Stores	... 1
Bakers ...	... 4	Hotels and Public	
Ice Cream	... 12	Houses	9

All these premises are regularly inspected and are generally kept in a satisfactory condition.

No ice cream is manufactured in Wilton, and at all premises where it is offered for sale, conditions are generally satisfactory.

**Byelaws 1949.**

The Council have adopted byelaws for the clean handling of food for human consumption under Section 15 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1938.

Improvements for the handling, etc., of Food have been made at three premises.

**Milk Supply to Borough.**

The whole of the milk supplied in the Borough is from Tuberculin Tested herds and was generally very satisfactory.

The control of milk production on the farms is now the responsibility of the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries.

Milk Bottles at the schools have been periodically examined and generally are satisfactory.

## FACTORIES ACTS, 1937 and 1948.

Within the Borough there are 19 factories with power and 2 without.

Periodical inspections are made of all factories and the conditions are generally found to be satisfactory.

### Factories - Premises.

	No. on register	No of inspections	No. of written notices	No of occupiers prosecuted
Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4, & 6 are to be enforced by the Local Authorities	2	3	—	—
Factories not included in (1) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authorities ...	19	21	2	—
Other premises under the Act (excluding out - workers' premises)	—	—	—	—
Total ...	21	24	2	—

### Factories - Defects.

Number of cases in which defects were found.

Particulars	Found	Remedied	Referred to H.M. Inspector	Referred by H M. Inspector	Cases in which prosecutions were instituted
Want of cleanliness ...	—	—	—	—	—
Sanitary Accommodation ...	2	2	—	1	—
Total ...	2	2	—	1	—



## HOUSING.

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### Notes on Housing during 1952.

During 1952 only four Council houses had been completed but a further ten had been commenced. This brought the total of post-war Council houses up to 71.

Six private houses were completed and one house converted into two flats.

The list of Council house applicants has been completely revised and now totals 164. 72 in separate accommodation (46 in Wilton), 92 without homes (51 in Wilton). Though these are obviously not all urgent cases it does seem as if the Borough will need a much more generous allowance of houses if the long leeway in housing, due to the cessation of building during wartime, the previous great difficulty in obtaining sites for private building as well as the great number of old and inconvenient houses which are gradually falling below modern requirements, is to be overcome. A degree of overcrowding was of course prevalent in the Borough during wartime and this had to overcome.

Up to the present time therefore it has been necessary to concentrate on rehousing large families and families in unsuitable surroundings, older couples and newly married couples have had little chance of obtaining a council house.

It is therefore very satisfactory to report that the Council have purchased Fancy Row site with a view to building a large block of small flats to house the above type of couples and to relieve the pressure on the more expensive three-bedroomed houses. The new site has the great advantage for older people that it is central, easy of access, and that the cost of sewerage and water supply will be less than that incurred in developing an outlying site. The proposed lay-out, site and plans would all appear to be eminently satisfactory.

After some trouble and insistence on the part of the Council opposition to the purchase of the Bulbridge Site for development as a Council site for Council and private



houses was withdrawn, and the Council can now have a suitable place for development for some years to come. Development there should be easier and more economical than on the present site at Wishford Road. Position of the Bulbridge Site should also aid the erection of private houses in the Borough which has become extremely difficult of recent years. Every private house erected helps the rates and may save a subsidy from the Council.

### **Housing Act, 1949.**

While no action regarding the quashing of demolition orders was made under this Act, permission was given by the Council to re-open two dwellings in regard to which there was an undertaking that they would not be so used. This was done on the owners agreeing to do such work as was necessary to make them comply with the Bye-laws.

No applications were received by the Council during 1952 for financial grants for the improvement of property which under certain conditions the Council is empowered to make.

Sixteen of the pre-war Council houses at Fairview were provided with indoor lavatory accommodation.

### **Council Houses—Maintenance.**

The following work has been carried out on existing Council houses during the year by the Council's own employees:—

Doors repaired	17	Fire-ranges repaired	
Sinks and waste pipes		or renewed	30
repaired or renewed	34	Gutters repaired	5
Roofs repaired	15	Blocked drains released	11
W.C cisterns repaired	37	Draining boards	
Windows repaired	16	renewed	20
Coppers repaired or		Floors repaired	2
renewed	12	Taps repaired	38
NEW—			
Cisterns	... 9	Rainwater down pipes	8
Rotary pump	1	Dustbins	... 10
W.C. Pans	... 6	Handrails	... 2
Seats	.. 3	Locks	... 24
Sinks	... 5	Bath	... 1

## Housing Act, 1936-1949.

Statement of work carried out during the year ended 31st December, 1952, under the above Acts in the Borough of Wilton.

1. *Inspection of dwelling-houses during the year :*
  - (1) (a) Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts) ... 12
  - (b) Number of inspections made for the purpose 36
  - (2) (a) Number of dwelling-houses (included under sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925 ... 0
  - (b) Number of inspections made for the purpose 0
  - (3) Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation ... 0
  - (4) Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation ... 12
2. *Remedy of defects during the year without service of formal notices :*

Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their Officers ... 12
3. *Action under Statutory Powers during the year :*
  - A. Proceedings under Section 9 of the Housing Act, 1936 :
    - (1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs 0
    - (2) Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notice :
      - (a) by Owners ... 0
      - (b) by Local Authority in default of Owners 0
  - B. Proceedings under Public Health Acts :
    - (1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied ... 0

- (2) Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices :
- (a) by Owners .. ... 0
- (b) by Local Authority in default of Owners 0
- C. Proceedings under Sections 11 and 25 of the Housing Act, 1936 :
- (1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made ... 0
- (2) Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders ... 0
- D. Proceedings under Section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936 :
- (1) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made ... 0
- (2) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit ... 0

#### 4. *Housing Act, 1936—Overcrowding.*

While most of the original cases of overcrowding have been dealt with, new cases arise from time to time for various reasons, *e.g.*, growth of families, necessity of separation of sexes of growing children, etc. As far as possible the Council now insist on notice of intention to let lodgings and only issue permits for a specified time.

## INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

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Once again Wilton has been fortunate to be remarkably free from notifiable diseases. The only cases of infectious diseases which were notified during the whole of 1952 were nearly all cases of whooping cough and of measles. As in the last few years not a single case of diphtheria occurred within the Borough, which must give further proof of the success accompanying the immunising of children against the disease. Immunisation is carried out by the Wiltshire County Council.

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Diseases	Wilton Borough	
	Cases Notified	Deaths
Typhoid fever ...	... 0	0
Paratyphoid fever	... 0	0
Cerebro-spinal Fever	... 0	0
Scarlet fever ...	... 1	0
Whooping Cough	... 18	0
Diphtheria ...	... 0	0
Erysipelas ...	... 0	0
Smallpox ...	... 0	0
Measles ...	... 22	0
Acute Pneumonia	... 0	0
Acute Poliomyelitis and Acute Polioencephalitis	0	0
Food Poisoning	... 0	0

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## Immunisation and Vaccination Statistics, 1952.

Age Group	Under							Total under
	1	1	2	3	4	5-9	10-14	15
Primary imms. completed during 1952	22	14				6		42
Reinf. inj.s. administered during 1952								74
Total im'unis'd child populat'n 31st Dec., '52	2	27	35	21	31	184	179	479

Age Group	Under				15 or over
	1	1	2-4	5-14	
Vaccinations	...	22	1	2	3
Re-vaccinations	...	-	-	6	10

### General Facilities for Treatment in cases of Infectious Diseases.

Cases of Infectious diseases from this district go to the Isolation Wards, Odstock Hospital.

The demand for accommodation varies of necessity from time to time, but up to date no case of infectious disease urgently requiring accommodation has had to be refused admission.

From this district we send as a rule all cases of diphtheria, nearly all cases of scarlet fever, and in addition any complicated case of any other infectious disease needing special nursing, or where the medical attendant is satisfied that home conditions are such as to render the spread of the disease more likely, or retard or endanger the chance of recovery of the patient. No one had to be sent in under the latter heading this year.



Cases are sent in within a few hours of diagnosis which no doubt has helped us in the past to maintain our very satisfactory record in regard to secondary cases. Cases are sent in by ambulance and if necessary arrangements can be made for return by ambulance. Private arrangements are however made for return in most cases. An investigation of the premises and disinfection take place in infectious diseases such as, diphtheria, scarlet fever, tuberculosis, etc. Bedding, etc., is put through the steam disinfectors where necessary.

### **Food Poisoning.**

No cases of food poisoning were notified during the year.

### **Prevention of Tuberculosis and Blindness.**

No action was necessary under regulations governing the employment of persons in the milk trade who were suffering from tuberculosis, nor for the prevention of blindness.

### **Tuberculosis.**

Tuberculosis comes under the control of the County Council who hold regular clinics in Salisbury for this area. No deaths occurred from the disease this year,

Birth-rates, Death-rates, Analysis of Mortality, Maternal Mortality and Case-rates  
for certain Infectious Diseases in the year 1952. Figures based on Quarterly Returns.

	England and Wales	126 C.B's and Great Towns including London	148 Smaller Towns (resident population 25,000 to 50,000 at 1931 Census)	London Admin. County	Wilton Borough
Rates per 1,000 Home Population.					
<b>Births</b>					
Live births ...	15.3	16.9	15.5	17.6	13.10
Still births ..	0.35	0.43	0.36	0.34	0.00
<b>Deaths</b>					
All Causes ...	11.3	12.1	11.2	12.6	9.80
Typhoid and Paratyphoid	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Whooping Cough ...	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Diphtheria ...	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Tuberculosis...	0.24	0.28	0.22	0.31	0.32
Influenza ...	0.04	0.04	0.04	0.05	0.00
Smallpox ...	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Acute Poliomyelitis (in- cluding Polioencephalitis)	0.09	0.09	0.08	0.09	0.00
Pneumonia ...	0.72	0.80	0.62	0.57	0.00

# *Notifications (Corrected)*

Typhoid Fever	...	0'00	0'00	0'00	0'00
Paratyphoid Fever	...	0'02	0'02	0'03	0'00
Meningococcal infection	...	0'03	0'03	0'03	0'00
Scarlet Fever	...	1'53	1'75	1'58	0'32
Whooping Cough	...	2'61	2'74	2'57	5'89
Diphtheria	..	0'01	0'01	0'03	0'00
Erysipelas	...	0'14	0'15	0'12	0'00
Smallpox	...	0'00	0'00	0'00	—
Measles	...	8'86	10'11	8'49	7'20
Pneumonia	...	0'72	0'80	0'62	0'00
Acute Poliomyelitis (including Polioencephalitis)	...				
Paralytic	...	0'06	0'06	0'06	0'00
Non-paralytic	...	0'03	0'03	0'02	0'00
Food Poisoning	...	0'13	0'16	0'11	0'00

## **Deaths.**

All causes under one year of age ...  
 Enteritis and diarrhoea under 2 years of age

Rates per 1,000 Live Births.

27'6 (a)	31'2	25'8	23'8	0'00
1'1	1'3	0'5	0'7	0'00

(a) Per 1,000 related live births.

The Maternal Mortality in the Borough was nil.

G. NAPIER, Medical Officer of Health.











